

**REMARKS**

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, Applicants have amended the listing of claims to include the text of the withdrawn claims 17-25. Claims 1-16 are currently pending.

If there are additional concerns and/or questions that the Examiner may have, then the Examiner is encourage to contact the undersigned by telephone at 202-842-8886 so that any such issues may be resolved in as efficient and expeditious manner as possible

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution. A favorable action is awaited.

**EXCEPT** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.

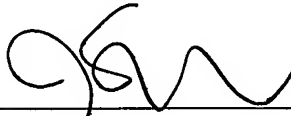
50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR  
EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

**DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP**

Dated: March 22, 2006

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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